

NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



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NEW LAW PROHIBITS SALE OF TINTED CONTACT LENSES WITHOUT A PRESCRIPTION

Columbia, SC.....A new law in South Carolina prohibits any person or business from dispensing or selling tinted or novelty contact lenses without a valid unexpired prescription from a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist even if the contact lens does not provide any degree of vision correction.

A person or business violating this law is subject to civil penalties imposed by the Department of Consumer Affairs for as much as five thousand (\$5000) for each violation. Persons charged with violations would be entitled to a hearing. In recent years, tinted or colored lenses have become popular and have been sold without instructions for proper wear and care through businesses such as beauty salons and surf shops.

The General Assembly passed this legislation in response to concerns over the documented health hazards of using contact lenses that have not been properly fitted by an eye care professional. For additional information or to report problems, contact the Department of Consumer Affairs at 800.922.1594 (toll free in South Carolina).

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About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers.

Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit www.scconsumer.gov.
